July 14
1927

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS'

MILLENNIAL STAR

ESTABLISHED IN 1840

"And again I say unto you, ye must repent, and be baptized in my name, and become as a little child, or ye can in nowise inherit the kingdom of God." BOOK OF MORMON, 3 NEPHI 11: 38.

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STEADFAST IN THE FAITH*

ELDER JOSEPH FIELDING SMITH
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE TWELVE

I FEEL very keenly the responsibility that is upon me this moment, and yet I am glad to add a few words to those already spoken. We have assembled here to be instructed, and I suppose it is true in the case of each of the other speakers, as I know it is with me, that it is impossible to express all the thoughts that arise in the mind as we listen to these services.

STUDY AND REFLECT

I take it for granted that the purpose of these conferences is that we who assemble here may hear instruction; furthermore, that the instruction may be as seed planted in our souls, taking root and growing, causing reflections in our minds. No doubt when we return to our homes we enlarge upon the things we have heard, and through faith and study gain greater knowledge, and thus draw nearer to our Heavenly Father in the truth. If we do not, then we are not obtaining the full benefit of the meetings and the instructions given by the brethren. It is our privilege and duty, therefore, to study and enlarge upon the things that are here spoken.

THE FAITH OF YOUNG LATTER-DAY SAINTS

Reference has been made by some of the speakers to sentiments uttered by those not of our faith, and who are not kindly disposed

*Address delivered at the fourth session of the Ninety-seventh Annual Conference, in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Utah, April 4th, 1927.

toward the Church and its members, to the effect that the youth of "Mormonism"—and I place that word in quotation marks—are not walking in the footsteps of their fathers, and, that in time the children will depart from the faith and accept the teachings of the so-called Christian sects of the world. As one of the fifth generation in the Church I testify that I know this is not true, and that there is faith in Israel among the young people.

A STEADFAST MAJORITY

The Gospel is, as the Saviour said, like a net cast in the sea, which gathers all kinds, and naturally there will be some that have to be cast out because they are not good. Without a doubt there are those who come into the Church with ulterior motives, and some who are always weak in the faith. These latter may become discouraged and depart from the Church, because they have not understood the truth. Again, we know it to be a fact that the unrepentant transgressor will deny the faith and turn away in a spirit of bitterness. However, I am assured, and I have that assurance in my heart through the teachings I have received from the Spirit of the Lord and from the inspiration that has come to me from the revelations of the Lord through His servants, that the majority of this people will always remain true.

SIGNIFICANT QUOTATION FROM DANIEL

Elder Whitney this afternoon referred to the prophesying of Daniel concerning the restored Gospel and the Priesthood. Let me present a verse that Daniel uttered, which to us, and to all the world, if they will receive it, is very significant:

> And in the days of these kings shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom, which shall never be destroyed: and the kingdom shall not be left to other people, but it shall break in pieces and consume all these kingdoms, and it shall stand for ever.
>
> Forasmuch as thou sawest that the stone was cut out of the mountain without hands, and that it break in pieces the iron, the brass, the clay, the silver, and the gold; the great God hath made known to the king what shall come to pass hereafter: and the dream is certain, and the interpretation thereof sure.

That is the statement of an ancient prophet concerning this latter-day work—this Gospel of the kingdom which has now been restored, and the organization the Lord has established—in other words, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. It will never be destroyed. It shall not be given to other people. While many will come into the Church, and some will go out of it, the great majority of its members will remain true and faithful to the truth, and the kingdom is bound to grow until it shall fill the earth.

WORLDLY RELIGIOUS SYSTEMS

I think that the Protestant ministers, to whom Elder McKay referred—Mr. Parrish and Mr. Fosdick—have spoken better than they knew in their arraignment of the Protestant world. Not only do their remarks apply to Protestantism, but to all creeds, sects and parties that are not recognized of the Lord, for He has decreed that in this Dispensation of the Fulness of Times He would break in pieces and bring to nought every work that is not of Him. He declared through Paul that it was "according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven and which are on earth; even in him." And as He has decreed, so He will fulfil. All things that pertain to the salvation of man have been restored in this dispensation preparatory to the coming of Christ and the setting up of His kingdom with absolute authority over all the earth. When that time comes, and Christ reigns, all that now exists contrary to that kingdom, and in conflict with it, must come to an end. If people are engaged in works which are not approved of the Lord, the earlier they come to an understanding of the truth and come out of them and learn to serve the Lord, the better it is for them. It is far better to know the truth and forsake error than to remain in the systems of the world which are not approved by the Lord, and therefore in due time must cease to exist. That day is near at hand, and because of it the Lord has sent forth His servants into the world proclaiming His Gospel and crying repentance, that all who will may hear and escape. It is within the reach of all who are willing to forsake error, to know the truth and the established work of the Lord.

THE ENEMY SHALL NOT OVERCOME

When the Priesthood was restored to Joseph Smith by John the Baptist (I speak now of the Aaronic Priesthood) the promise was made that it should remain on the earth, and should not be taken away. So we look for the Church with all its power to grow and develop until all the righteous are gathered unto the kingdom of God. For it is the will of our Father that all who are willing to serve Him and seek light and truth shall have the opportunity. In a revelation given to the Prophet Joseph Smith, January 2nd, 1831, before the Church was one year old, the Lord said:

> Wherefore, gird up your loins and be prepared. Behold, the kingdom is yours, and the enemy shall not overcome.

I have faith in that. He has given to us the kingdom. He has made us the promise that the enemy of the kingdom shall not overcome. We may have trouble. We have had trouble. We

may meet with opposition, but that opposition shall fail in its endeavour to destroy the work of God.

THERE ARE SOME TARES IN THE CHURCH

Now the Lord has said something more in the verses which follow the one I have given you, and these are very significant and very timely:

Verily I say unto you, ye are clean, but not all; and there is none else with whom I am well pleased.

The Lord could not say He was well pleased with all the members of the Church. For even then, as now, there were some in the Church who were not clean. Nevertheless, He did declare this Church was the only one with which He was well pleased. He could not say that of the systems and organizations extant which will not hearken to His word and obey His commandments, but set up doctrines of their own, contrary to His laws and ordinances. It is only natural, since He did establish His Church, to speak of it in the terms which He did, and while expressing satisfaction with the organization as a whole, yet point out forcibly the fact that there were in the Church some tares guilty of sin. After making this statement He further says:

For all flesh is corrupted before me; and the powers of darkness prevail upon the earth, among the children of men, in the presence of all the hosts of heaven—

Which causeth silence to reign, and all eternity is pained, and the angels are waiting the great command to reap down the earth, to gather the tares that they may be burned; and, behold, the enemy is combined.

GREAT THINGS TO TAKE PLACE IN THIS AGE

So the Lord points out the fact that great things are to take place on the earth in this day. The Gospel has been restored, and the kingdom given to His saints according to the prophecy of Daniel. It is not again to be removed, destroyed, or given to other people, and in His own way and time He is going to break down all other systems, that His kingdom may prevail, and that He may come and reign as Lord of lords and King of kings upon the face of the whole earth.

THE RESTORED CHURCH NOT TO BE REMOVED

Again in reference to this same matter, which is in harmony with that which we have heard this afternoon from the other speakers, the Lord said:

And verily I say unto you, the rest of my servants, go ye forth as your circumstances shall permit, in your several callings, unto the great and notable cities and villages, reproving the world in righteousness of all their unrighteous and ungodly deeds, setting forth clearly and understandingly the desolation of abomination in the last days.

For with you, saith the Lord Almighty, I will rend their kingdoms; I will not only shake the earth, but the starry heavens shall tremble.

For I, the Lord, have put forth my hand to exert the powers of heaven; ye cannot see it now, yet a little while and ye shall see it, and know that I am, and that I will come and reign with my people.

I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end. Amen.

So again in these modern scriptures the Lord has called attention to the fact that He is going to destroy systems and organizations and combinations that are false. And how is He going to do it? By giving their members the truth, if they will receive it; by giving them the privilege of coming out of those organizations to receive the truth, and of having every opportunity to come into His kingdom, for His hand is outstretched ready to greet them. If they will not come, if they will not receive His message, then of course they must fall with their systems. Truth will prevail; truth will stand when all else is removed, and it is destined to cover the face of the earth.

FALSE SYSTEMS TO BE DESTROYED

In one of these scriptures I have presented, the Lord said the angels are waiting to reap down the earth. I heard President Wilford Woodruff make the statement, in this very spot where I now stand, at a conference of the Church, that these angels had been sent forth on their mission to reap down the earth, to tie in bundles the tares for the burning and to gather the saints of God. I heard him make this statement on several occasions. Moreover, he said from that time forth, and that was about the year 1894, earthquakes, pestilence, war, famine, plague, and other commotions among both men and the elements would increase and continue until the coming of Christ.

In the revelation known to us as the "Revelation on War" the Lord declared that He had decreed the overthrow of nations "until the consumption decreed hath made a full end of all nations." In that day, when this shall come to pass, the nation set up by the Lord must reign supreme, and all other powers, kingdoms, organizations and societies shall pass away, for so it is decreed.

ADVICE AND ADMONITION TO THE SAINTS

Now, just a word or two in conclusion, as advice and admonition to the Latter-day Saints. We are living in perilous times. I do not feel that we ought to sit down and take things easy, to partake of all the sins and follies of the world and their systems, and do just as they do in all respects. We should strictly observe the Sabbath day. We should keep the Word of Wisdom. We cannot afford to discard the doctrine of prayer. If we turn away from these principles which mean so much to us we cannot be approved of the Lord. The world is turning from these funda-

mental principles. They do not mean to the ordinary individual in the world what they used to mean. Many professed ministers of Christ are making light of these sacred things—not all of them, for there are yet some who are devout and sincere in the things they are teaching—however, a great many professed teachers of the Gospel have discarded the fundamental truth upon which salvation is based. We should not pin our faith in men, or in their philosophies and their worldly teachings. The world is full of doctrines and vain philosophy diametrically opposed to the Gospel of Jesus Christ. And I say to you, my brethren and sisters, we ought to follow the admonition the Lord has given us to stand in holy places and be not moved, and be just a little more firm in the keeping of His commandments. We should make a more careful search of the scriptures and the revelations of the Lord.

OBSERVE THE SABBATH

We have no business violating the Sabbath day. In the Priesthood conferences, which have been held in the stakes of Zion during the past three months, we have put a great deal of stress upon this principle. We have been teaching the people the necessity of observing the Sabbath day and keeping it holy. I regret very much that, even in communities of Latter-day Saints, this doctrine is not looked upon as it ought to be by some; that we have those among us who seem to feel that it is perfectly right to follow the custom of the world in this regard. They are partakers of the ideas and notions of the world in violation of the commandments of the Lord. But if we do this the Lord will hold us accountable, and we cannot violate His word and receive the blessings of the faithful.

BE PRAYERFUL

We cannot afford to discard the doctrine of prayer. We should be teaching our children in our homes to pray; we should pray in secret and in our hearts and before our families. Without the spirit of prayer we cannot please the Lord; we cannot stand before Him in favour if we are not willing to acknowledge His hand in all things and keep His commandments. These are the words He has given us by revelation.

NECESSARY TO WALK IN THE FULL LIGHT OF TRUTH

We cannot afford not to pay our tithing, nor can we afford to turn away from any other principles of the Gospel. I fully endorse the remark made by one of the speakers here yesterday, that it is necessary for us to walk in the full light of the truth, not in part of the truth only. I haven't the privilege of discarding some of the principles of the Gospel and believing others, and then feel that I am entitled to the full blessings of salvation

and exaltation in the kingdom of God. If we want exaltation, if we want the place which the Lord has prepared for those who are just and true, then we must be willing to walk in the full light of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and keep all the commandments. We cannot say that some of them are small and insignificant, and therefore the Lord will not care if we violate them. We are commanded to live by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. "And why call ye me, Lord, Lord," He says, "and do not the things that I say?" So He spoke to His disciples when He was with them, and He has also spoken to us in this day in a similar way, saying: "If ye love me, keep my commandments."

I pray that we may all walk in the light of truth as it has been revealed to us, observing to do all things required by the Lord, which, through our faithfulness and perseverance, will insure our exaltation in the kingdom of God. This is my prayer, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

TWO POETS

Two poets there were, and each worshiped his God.
One soared to the sun, and one clung to the sod.
The first sang of heaven; the second, of earth,
And men deemed his message of paramount worth.
A rose-bud, a sunset, a mountain-girt lake,
More charm held for him than the Mighty who spake
Unto chaos of old, at the birth of a sphere:
"Let the waters abate! Let the dry land appear!"
Then gave to great Nature her infinite dower,
And brought forth all things by the word of His power.
Each poet a master-work wrought for the press;
For each felt the impulse all living to bless—
Came forth two rare poems, the low world to lift,
One praising the Giver, the other, the gift.
And he of the sanctum, with spectacled eye,
Scanned each offering o'er, and anon made reply.
To the first; "Too much God in your poem," said he.
To the second: "Accepted—your 'Ode to the Sea'."
And so wags the world; 'tis the creature ranks first—
What's made, not the Maker. Deny it who durst.

This excellent poem is one of the more recent writings of our brother, sometimes called the poet of the Church, Elder Orson F. Whitney, one of the Council of the Twelve.

THE LATTER-DAY SAINTS' MILLENNIAL STAR

THURSDAY, JULY 14, 1927

EDITORIAL

"DEDICATING" GRAVES

FUNERAL SERVICES as conducted by this Church are impressively simple. Appropriate hymns expressive of hope, of life, and of the assured resurrection, brief addresses for the giving of which the guidance of the Holy Spirit should be diligently sought, so that their effect may be up-lifting, comforting and reassuring to those who mourn, with invocation and benediction—these are the essentials in every such service.

The sermon, or address, in any case may include well-deserved eulogies of the departed, specification of worthy life and good deeds, while known faults, failings or weaknesses of the deceased may decently be left unmentioned.

Funeral services are held for the good of the living, who remain, rather than for the benefit of the dead. Of what use to the departed is wordy praise? Yet it would be to our shame to bury the bodies of our deceased kindred and friends without appropriate services, such as express our respect and love for those of whose earthly companionship we are bereft, and turn our thoughts for the hour at least toward the solemnities of eternity.

The existing order with respect to mankind and Nature in general shows that death is as truly a part of the divine plan as is birth.

Following the religious service, whether held in church or chapel, in mortuary or in the family home, comes the saddening duty of interring the mortal remains. The grave is closed and a concluding prayer is offered. It has come to be a custom to speak of the final prayer as one of dedication; and such it is in the broad and general sense in which that term is usually understood. Its usage in connection with burials should not be confused with the application of the word as indicating a specific ordinance requiring the exercise of the authority and power inherent in any particular office of the Holy Priesthood.

The grave-side prayer should include thanksgiving for the safe committal of the body to earth and reverent supplication that it shall again come forth, reanimated by the immortal spirit to which it once gave tenancy, at the time appointed for its resurrection. Any suitable person may offer this closing prayer, whether he be a bearer of the Priesthood or not; though, naturally, if the service has been conducted by men ordained to the

Priesthood, one of them would be appointed or chosen to thus officiate at the grave. It is not advised, however, that one so ministering should use words to the effect that he is officiating by virtue of any power or authority pertaining to the Holy Priesthood, nor that by any such authority or power he dedicates the grave. He is acting as the leader in prayer in behalf of all assembled there.

Owing to a degree of misapprehension concerning the graveside prayer marking the conclusion of the funeral service, some devout people, whose loved ones were laid in the grave years ago, perhaps to the accompaniment of the ritualistic service of some other church, occasionally make requests that the graves in which the bodies of their beloved dead have long rested be now dedicated by the Elders of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

It is advised that no dedicatory service be held except it be, as stated, in the nature of a prayer marking the conclusion of the funeral proceedings immediately after interment. The order of the Church does not provide for any later ceremony, and makes no provision for any ordinance of dedication to be administered as a function pertaining to the Priesthood.—J. E. T.

WHILE THE SUMMER LASTS

The long light evenings, characteristic of summer months in these latitudes, afford precious opportunities to our missionaries in making their house-to-house calls and in the distribution of tracts. Reports that have come in from several of the Districts demonstrate that the evening hours are the best for missionary work at this season. By making their door-to-door calls during the evening the missionaries are able to meet more of the men, who are often engaged in their daily work elsewhere during the earlier hours.

Moreover, this is preeminently the best season for open-air meetings; and again we find from reports at hand that such meetings are among the best gatherings held in connection with missionary work. This is not the time of vacation for missionaries, but the season of greatest demand in the service to which they are devoting themselves. Let evening tracting, Sunday tracting, and the holding of out-door meetings be intensively followed up while the summer lasts!—J. E. T.

BIRTHDAY OF THE CHURCH HISTORIAN

Elder Joseph Fielding Smith, son of the late President Joseph F. Smith, was born July 19th, 1876, at Salt Lake City, Utah. Fitting

observance of the fifty-first anniversary of his birth will be a feature of the ensuing week. Even in his boyhood Elder Smith was distinguished for his active participation in church duties; he served successively and successfully in official positions in his home ward and stake. He was ordained an Apostle of the Lord Jesus Christ and set apart as one of the Council of the Twelve Apostles on April 7th, 1910, by his honoured father, then President of the Church. Elder Smith is one of our best scriptorians, and is the author of several books relating to the Church, among which are the *Origin of the "Reorganized" Church*, and the standard text book for classes and organizations, *Essentials in Church History*. As shown by the foregoing dates, Elder Smith was ordained to the Apostleship at the age of thirty-three; both then and since he has manifested the spirit of his high calling in continuous ministry rendered with unwavering devotion. Since the death of President Anthon H. Lund, in March, 1921, Elder Joseph Fielding Smith has ably filled the office of Church Historian. Through him the Lord has blessed His people.—J. E. T.

THE WAY OF A GAMBLER

On June 28th, at the Old Bailey, London, a postman was sentenced to three years' penal servitude for the theft of several hundred letters containing postal orders and Treasury notes. He had been engaged in the thievery through several months. Betting was given as the cause.

Like religion and politics, gambling in all its varied forms has long been a favourite topic for discussion and debate. It has been the subject of voluminous writings—some denouncing, some compromising, others sanctioning and defending. The wealthy man may assert his so-called right to gamble, because he enjoys the excitement and can afford to lose if necessary. The poor man, who can ill afford it, may indulge, and risk all on a bare hope of winning.

Regardless of all flimsy arguments to the contrary, gambling is non-productive and demoralizing; it is wrong in principle, and not a matter to be justified, compromised or regulated according to the financial standing of the participants. Fortunes have been lost, lives ruined, and homes wrecked, directly or indirectly by this evil. The recent deplorable instance at the Old Bailey is another case in point.

Doubtless, the material wealth we possess, as well as all of our other resources and abilities, will have to be accounted for when we stand before the Master of all, after the manner of the three servants in the Parable of the Talents. It certainly will not be a happy experience for those who must relate how they bet on the wrong horse, or were unfortunate in a card game, and conse-

quently lost what little of worldly goods they possessed, thus depriving their families of necessities. Neither will it be an inviting occurrence for those who squander fortunes that might well have been put to some productive use.

Men may be barred from heaven because of sins for which no man-made laws could bring them to account.—RICHARD L. EVANS.

CHAMBERLIN—BYRD—OCEAN FLIGHTS

FOLLOWING two weeks after the memorable trans-Atlantic flight of Charles A. Lindbergh, Clarence D. Chamberlin, accompanied by one passenger, Charles A. Levine, flew from New York to Germany in a Bellanca plane, the *Columbia*.

About three weeks later, July 1st, Lieutenant-Commander R. E. Byrd, who was in command of the first plane that flew over the North Pole on May 9th, 1926, also completed a trans-Atlantic flight, making the third within six weeks. He traveled from New York to the coast of France, with three passengers, in a giant Fokker plane, the *America*.

Three successful cross-ocean flights, each one of well over thirty-five hundred miles, conclusively demonstrate the practicability of air travel over the seas and long distances in general. It will only be a question of time until we shall accept this mode of transportation with as little fear as we do the many other modern wonders. The flow of wisdom and knowledge from the Divine Source is inexhaustible, and there is no limit to what men may attain if they work in strict harmony with the laws of the universe.—RICHARD L. EVANS.

ECLIPSE

THE FIRST total eclipse of the sun visible in Britain for over two hundred years appeared on June 29th. Astronomers state that the next one will be seen in this country from near Land's End in 1999.

Many writers have described the wonderful spectacle, the fiery corona, the hush that occurred as a pall of peculiar darkness enshrouded all Nature, and the feeling of dread, awe and wonder that was experienced by those who witnessed the phenomenon. Many scientific parties made observations, and took photographs wherever weather conditions would permit.

According to the report of Sir Frank Dyson, the Astronomer Royal, totality began three seconds earlier than was predicted, but lasted the exact time forecast by astronomers. No railroad train on earth could run that close to schedule. It is more likely that the calculations were faulty than that the eclipse was ahead of time.

FROM FOREIGN FIELDS

The Armenian Mission. The work done among our Armenian members of the Church is a subject worthy of a master's treatment whether expressed in story or song, on canvas or in marble. The history of this Mission would comprise many pages of jubilant thanksgiving and devout praise for divine blessings of protection from the threatening death and impending extermination, as also for material provision in time of greatest need; but other chapters would be written in tragic crimson and black. The entire Mission at present comprises about 180 souls; and there are under the fostering care of Mission President Joseph W. Booth, ably assisted by his devoted wife, Sister Rebecca Moyle Booth. The current term of missionary service by President and Sister Booth covers about five years—and the end is not yet—but the entire time, embracing earlier missionary periods, spent by President Booth among the Armenian saints, is nearing the twenty-year mark. The work amongst those people, the older ones being mostly refugees who fled to escape the atrocities of war, is more than preaching from the pulpit and making ministerial calls to members in comfortable homes. The people have had to be cared for, taught and trained, and supported by means gathered from members of the Church in other parts, mostly from those in Zion; and through the years of vicissitude, dire poverty, and adversity, in many forms, Brother and Sister Booth have been regarded by them as father and mother in a truly loving and actually dependent sense.

In the Spring of this year Dr. Franklin S. Harris, who is President of the Brigham Young University, Utah, made a prolonged visit to the Armenian Mission, the headquarters of which are established at Aleppo, Syria, and extended his tour of observation into the Holy Land. The Doctor made a comprehensive report of conditions in the Mission; and from this, sent from Aleppo, the following paragraphs are taken:

"I find in Syria a body of members of the Church who have a comprehension of the Gospel and its teachings which seems to me remarkable; it compares favourably with that in the wards of Zion. I am really astonished at the work that President Joseph W. Booth and his wife have been able to accomplish in getting these people together and teaching them so that they understand so well the Church and its doctrines. The saints are also being brought toward economic independence from a condition of great poverty.

"All of this is being done with an economy that is surprising. Only the greatest devotion and self-sacrifice on the part of Brother and Sister Booth have made this possible. They are doing as fine a piece of work as I know of being done anywhere; and they have the respect and confidence, not only of the native popu-

lation, but also of the Europeans and Americans, who live in this section."

From South Africa. President Samuel Martin, in charge of the South African Mission, reports good and improving conditions in missionary service and in the activity of members in that distant land. As a part of a comprehensive report recently sent in by him, we read:

"I am very pleased to report to you again a successful tour of the South African Mission. In the course of this journey I endeavoured to make a personal visit to the house of every member of access; and with them I met many friends and investigators who participated in the cottage meetings and evening conversations, from all of which visits good results have followed. I am very grateful to inform you that the spiritual condition of the Mission has been well maintained during the past year; and we have good reason for expecting to see the fruits of our labours in new accessions to the Church in the near future. Many of our investigators are people of the better class in the matter of education and social standing. We have obtained permission to hold street meetings in Bloemfontein and Johannesburg, and expect soon to have similar privileges in Durban. Our great need is an adequate increase in the number of missionaries assigned to labour in this field.

From the Lands in which French is spoken: Mission President Ernest C. Rossiter reports a continuation of successful work in the French-speaking part of Switzerland, in Belgium, and in France. He has recently made a tour of visitation throughout the Mission, and commends the missionaries for their diligent work. One item of especial interest reported by him is as follows:

"A Protestant Pastor at La Garde, near Toulon, invited me to take charge of the regular Sunday services on the occasion of my visit. Elders Almon Brown and Parker P. Warner were with me. 'Mormon' hymns were sung; 'Mormon' prayers were offered; and a 'Mormon' sermon was delivered. As the Pastor had invited me to deliver the sermon, I spoke on the 'Restored Gospel.' The Pastor and his wife hospitably entertained us at lunch. We parted with feelings that were mutually friendly. The Pastor and many of his congregation have expressed themselves as being well pleased with the doctrines expounded at the service; they said that a warmer feeling, a more friendly spirit, was manifest in our meetings than had been experienced by them among themselves. Some of our Elders had spoken to the same congregation on earlier occasions. The Pastor extends an invitation to us to return and address his congregation whenever we have opportunity. Many of his members have invited our missionaries to visit them in their homes, and have treated our brethren with great hospitality."

FROM THE MISSION FIELD

Transfer: Elder Earle R. Webb has been transferred from the Newcastle to the Norwich District.

Doings in the Districts: *Hull*—The missionaries of the Hull District met in a monthly report meeting at Grimsby on June 25th. President Richard D. Hooper presided, and Elder Norval G. Taylor spoke on the joy of missionary service. The reports of the Elders were encouraging.

Sheffield—A farewell social was held for President Raymond H. Haight, at the Latter-day Saints' chapel, Sheffield, on June 25th. An enjoyable program was presented. Members and friends gathered from all parts of the District to pay their respects to the departing President.

Release and Appointment: At the evening service held in the Latter-day Saints' chapel, Ellesmere Road, Sheffield, Sunday evening, July 3rd, which was attended and addressed by Mission President James E. Talmage, announcement was made of a change in the presidency of the District. Elder Raymond H. Haight, who filled a mission in Texas, U. S. A., years ago, and who has labonred in the Nottingham and Sheffield Districts for two years, during the last nine months of which period he has been President of the Sheffield District, was honourably released to return home. He bears with him the good will and best wishes of all with whom he has ministered. Elder Cecil B. Kenner, recently transferred from the Bristol District, where he has rendered excellent service since his arrival in this Mission, in November last, was appointed and installed as President of the Sheffield District.

Words from the Workers: *Note*: In line with the usual custom followed in this Mission, the Traveling Elders are assigned to labour in country and rural districts during the summer months. In some branches, however, within cities and larger towns, the missionaries are retained; but the unceasing endeavour is to find and fit men who reside within such branches, to conduct the services and pastoral ministry, and thus leave the Traveling Elders free to visit parts not usually reached by our missionaries. The importance of tracting and holding open-air meetings during the long summer evenings has been urged upon the missionaries; as also house-to-house visitation during such part of each Sunday as is not occupied by the regular services. Evening and Sunday tracting have enabled the missionaries to reach more men than are accessible during working hours. Some very encouraging results are reported on this phase of the work for the current season. Examples follow:

Sheffield District: President Raymond H. Haight, just prior to his honourable release and retirement, wrote to the effect that street meetings had been found to be very beneficial to the people, and to the Elders conducting the services. Referring to this phase of the work of the Traveling Elders he says: "They have held a goodly number of street meetings this month; and the satisfaction the Elders experience after talking to a group of interested people makes them feel more fit for tracting. The privilege of bearing one's testimony always gives one added confidence and more determination to reach a larger number of people. The missionaries report greater satisfaction from street meetings than from any other phase of the work."

Newcastle District: District President Orson H. Berrett writes: "All of the Elders of this District are out in the country for the summer, and I have very good reports from most of them. They have held street meetings with good success, and find evening tracting to be very beneficial. In visiting from house to house in the evening we have had over forty invitations this month, as compared with six for last month, to enter the house and give our message to the family; and this is largely the result of our finding more men at home in the evening."

Hull District: By report from President Richard D. Hooper we learn that Sunday visits and evening tracting are very effective. He writes further: "Elder Timpson and I have been tracting in the parks on Sundays, and have found this to be an excellent method of reaching the men. Our evening tracting from door to door has brought us in contact with the men in the majority of calls answered, and at a time when they were able and willing to converse with us and hear our message."

Welsh District: The missionaries have been holding cottage meetings and open-air services in several villages. President Raymond Murphy cites as an example the following: "Last evening the Elders met and held an open-air meeting in the village of Blackwood, which is in the territory that the Elders have been tracting. One of the local brethren, Brother Matthews, attended our meeting and spoke for a few moments, assuring the people among whom he lives that the work in which our missionaries are engaged is verily the work of the Lord. We spent more than two hours in a spirited meeting, and I am certain that much good was accomplished."

Liverpool District: President David M. Kennedy has reported his own work in the country with that of the missionaries labouring under his direction, comprising tracting and street meetings. Of the missionaries he writes: "They have been trying evening tracting, and find that it affords a good opportunity for meeting the men. We are emphasizing open-air meetings with very gratifying results. The missionaries are united and are working hard."

Bristol District: President Carl E. Brown writes as follows: "A sincere endeavour on the part of the missionaries labouring in this District to reach and converse with the men has characterized our work during the last month. Encouraging reports have been received from the presiding Elders, all of which promise even yet greater results in the near future. Elder Gordon P. Owen writes: 'We have had greater success in reaching the men during the last month, because of our efforts to go where they were to be found, and at a time when they were at home. Four-fifths of our tracting has been done with men.' Elder William Paxman has written saying: 'Through our Sunday and evening tracting we have been able to meet the men and deliver our message to them'." President Brown adds: "As for myself, I know that the spirit of missionary work has been stronger, our receptions have been warmer, our conversations more numerous, and our success in every way greater, through following the instructions to emphasize open-air meetings, Sunday visits, and tracting during the long summer evenings."

DEATH

WALKER—Sister Agnes Walker, of the Pudsey Branch, Leeds District, passed away on the 19th of June, at the age of seventy-nine. Sister Walker has been a devoted worker in the Church for the past thirty-four years. Funeral services were held at the family residence. President Theodore N. Hutchings and Elders Noble L. Chambers and Cyril P. Maughan spoke. Elder H. Gardell Jacobson dedicated the grave. Interment was in Pudsey cemetery.

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LIVERPOOL

FOR SALE IN ALL THE DISTRICTS OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS IN GREAT BRITAIN